

## City of Falls Church

Meeting Date: 5/11/09	Title: Resolution Designating Arlington County as the Community Action Agency for the City of Falls Church ( <b>TR9-12</b> )	Agenda No.: 10 (b) (2)
Proposed Motion: <b>MOVE passage of TR9-12</b>		
Originating Dept. Head: Howard Herman, General Manager Community Services x 5042 <b>HEH</b> Pam Doran, Director, Housing and Human Services x 5123 <b>PD</b>		Disposition by Council:
<b>City Manager:</b> Wyatt Shields 703.248.5004 <b>FWS 5/7/09</b>	<b>City Attorney:</b> John Foster 703.248.5010 <b>JEF 5-7-09</b>	<b>CFO:</b> John Tuohy 703.248.5092 <b>JHT 05-07-2009</b>

REQUEST: Council is requested to designate Arlington County as the Community Action Agency for the City of Falls Church. This will allow Arlington County to receive \$40,000 in additional Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) expansion monies available through federal stimulus funds. This additional funding will be utilized to address unmet needs of income eligible City residents.

RECOMMENDATION: MOVE passage of TR9-12.

BACKGROUND: Community Action was initiated as part of the War on Poverty over thirty years ago to address issues of low-income communities. Community Action Agencies (CAAs), or Community Action Programs (CAPs), receive core funding through the federal CSBG program. . These funds are awarded by formula through the state to designated Community Action Agencies (CAA's), also referred to as Community Action Programs (CAP's). The CAA or CAP can either be a nonprofit or a locality. There are currently 26 CAA's throughout Virginia. While the majority of Virginia Community Action Agencies are private nonprofits, the City of Alexandria, Fairfax County, Arlington County, and Loudoun County each have local government departments serving in the role of Community Action Agencies. Some of the CSBG funded programs in Virginia are: education, employment, child care, community and economic development, Head Start, and services to special populations (including the elderly and ex-offenders). Two websites with additional information on CSBG include: <http://www.vacap.com/> and <http://www.dss.virginia.gov/community/csb.html>.

There are currently 41 localities (including The City of Falls Church, The City of Fairfax, Prince William County, Manassas City, and Manassas Park) that are not receiving CSBG funds through a designated CAA. Some of these are "un-CAP-ed" areas, which is an area that does not have a CAA or CAP. The State is receiving additional stimulus money that allows for the expansion of CAAs/CAPS. The State recommends that the City align with Arlington so that Arlington will be eligible for additional funds that would benefit City residents.

The cities of Falls Church and Fairfax have not previously been included in any designated CSBG funding area. The City of Fairfax has approved a resolution making Fairfax County their CAA. The City of Fairfax is aligned with Fairfax County for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

The purpose of this proposed resolution is to similarly position the City with a CAA in order to receive the benefit of CSBG funds, including those currently available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), and CSBG funds available in future years. The City of Falls Church has a well-established relationship with Arlington County as the City has a Cooperative Agreement for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funds. If the City were to partner with Arlington County, Arlington would possibly receive increased CSBG funding. This increase could allow the City to access CSBG activities in Arlington. The State also advised that alignment with Arlington would be a smooth transition as the City and Arlington are already aligned with the CDBG Cooperative Agreement.

Under consideration is access to employment training programs offered through Arlington Employment Center, at several locations. Approximately 8 slots could be identified for eligible Falls Church residents, to serve adults or youth. Employment training is currently an unmet need for very low income City residents.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** No additional General Funds will be required to access the CSBG services provided through Arlington County. The City of Falls Church will not receive any funds directly as a result of this action. Access to Arlington County CSBG activities will be described in an annual Memorandum of Understanding.

**TIMING:** Immediate. The City was advised to pass a resolution designating Arlington County as the Community Action Agency for Falls Church prior to May 15, 2009 to ensure additional funding from stimulus funds.

(TR9-12)

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE COUNTY OF ARLINGTON AS  
THE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY FOR THE CITY OF FALLS  
CHURCH

WHEREAS, the Code of Virginia, Chapter 2.2-5400, known as the Community  
Action Act, establishes the power and duties of a Community Action  
Agency; and

WHEREAS, the local subdivision of the Commonwealth recommends that the  
designation of a Community Action Agency, by resolution of the local  
governing body, be forwarded to the Virginia Department of Social  
Services to develop the organizational and funding plan to be forwarded  
to the Secretary of Health and Human Resources for recommendation to  
the Governor for action; and

WHEREAS, the City of Falls Church has established a relationship with Arlington  
County by way of a Cooperative Agreement for the receipt and use of  
CDBG and HOME funds; and

WHEREAS, CDBG and HOME funds are the basis for the Five Year Consolidated  
Plan and Annual Action Plans; and

WHEREAS, Arlington County has incorporated the City of Falls Church into its  
Five Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans, and

WHEREAS, Arlington County desires to serve eligible residents of the City of Falls  
Church, enabling them to benefit from CSBG funding and activities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Falls  
Church, Virginia does hereby designate Arlington County as the  
Community Action Agency serving residents of the City of Falls Church.

Reading: 5-11-09

Adoption: \_\_\_\_\_

(TR9-12)